

Practitioner's Docket No. MPI1997-018CP1DV1

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

1-31 (CANCELLED)

32. (presently twice amended) A method for identifying a candidate compound capable of modulating a ISE activity, comprising:

- a. contacting a compound to a cell that expresses a ISE gene;
- b. measuring the level of ISE gene expression in the cell; and
- c. comparing the level obtained in (b) to ISE gene expression level obtained in the absence of the compound;

such that if the level obtained in (b) differs from that obtained in the absence of the compound, a compound capable of modulating a ISE activity has been identified.

33. The method of Claim 32 wherein the compound increases the level of ISE gene expression.

34. The method of Claim 32 wherein the compound decreases the level of ISE gene expression.

35. The method of Claim 32 in which expression of the ISE gene is detected by measuring ISE mRNA transcripts.

36. The method of Claim 32 in which expression of the ISE gene is detected by measuring ISE gene product.

37. The method of Claim 32 wherein the compound is a small organic molecule.

38.(presently twice amended) A method for identifying a candidate compound capable of treating an immune, central nervous system or metabolic disorder, comprising:

- a. contacting a compound to a cell that expresses a ISE gene;
- b. measuring the level of ISE gene expression in the cell; and
- c. comparing the level obtained in (b) to ISE gene expression level obtained in the absence of the compound;

such that if the level obtained in (b) differs from that obtained in the absence of the compound, a compound capable of treating an immune, central nervous system or metabolic disorder has been identified.

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39. The method of Claim 38 wherein the central nervous system disorder is schizophrenia, cognitive disorders multiple sclerosis or depression.
40. The method of Claim 38 wherein the immune disorder is an inflammatory disorder.
41. The method of Claim 38 wherein the metabolic disorder is a body weight disorder.
42. The method of Claim 38 wherein the compound increases the level of I5E gene expression.
43. The method of Claim 38 wherein the compound decreases the level of I5E gene expression.
44. The method of Claim 38 in which expression of the I5E gene is detected by measuring I5E mRNA transcripts.
45. The method of Claim 38 in which expression of the I5E gene is detected by measuring I5E gene product.
46. The method of Claim 38 in which the compound is a small organic molecule.
- 47-88. (CANCELLED)
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